ited Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/235

Meeting of States Parties

Distr.: General
11 August 2011

Original: English

Meeting of States Parties
New York, 11 August 2011

Agenda

1. Opening of the Meeting of States Parties by the President of the twenty-first Meeting.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Organization of work.
5. Report of the Credentials Committee.
6. Election of one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

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Credentials of representatives

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairperson: Robert Eric Alabado **Borje** (Philippines)

1. On 11 August 2011, the Meeting of States Parties held to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, decided, for the purposes of conducting the business of the Meeting, to maintain the composition of the Credentials Committee as appointed by the twenty-first Meeting held in June 2011. The Credentials Committee thus consisted of the following nine States Parties: Belgium, Brazil, Ghana, Norway, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, Uruguay and Zambia.

2. The Credentials Committee held one meeting on 11 August 2011. It had before it a memorandum by the Secretariat, of the same date, describing the status of credentials of representatives of States Parties participating in the Meeting. The Secretary of the Committee made a statement with regard to the credentials and communications received subsequent to the preparation of the memorandum.

3. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum, orally supplemented during the meeting, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by a person authorized by either of them had been received by the Secretariat for the representatives of the following 82 States Parties: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

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4. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, orally supplemented during the meeting, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the Meeting had been communicated by means of facsimile or in the form of diplomatic correspondence from ministries, permanent missions to the United Nations or other Government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the following 60 States Parties: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia.

5. On the understanding that formal credentials of the representatives referred to in paragraph 2 of the Secretariat's memorandum would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as possible, the Committee adopted the following resolution without a vote:

The Credentials Committee,

Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf held on 11 August 2011 referred to in the memorandum of the Secretariat dated 11 August 2011, supplemented by the additional information provided by the Secretariat dated 11 August 2011,

Accepts the credentials of the representatives concerned.

6. Subsequently, the Committee approved, without a vote, the Chairperson's proposal that the Committee recommend to the Meeting of States Parties the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea held on 11 August 2011 to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

The Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

7. The proposal was adopted without a vote.

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Report of the Meeting of States Parties to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

I. Introduction

1. The Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (to elect one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf) was held at Headquarters on 11 August 2011, in accordance with article 2 of annex II to the Convention. The election was to fill the vacancy that had occurred in the Commission owing to the demise of Mr. Kensaku Tamaki (Japan) on 5 April 2011.

2. The Meeting had before it the following documents: a note by the Secretary-General on the election procedures (SPLOS/232); the list of candidates nominated by States Parties (SPLOS/233); and the curriculum vitae of the candidate nominated by the Government of Japan (SPLOS/234).

II. Opening of the Meeting

3. Camillo Gonsalves (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), President of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties, opened the Meeting.

4. The Meeting observed a minute of silence in memory of the late Kensaku Tamaki.

5. For the purposes of conducting its business, the Meeting decided to retain the composition of the Bureau,[1] including the Presidency, as elected, and the composition of the Credentials Committee, as appointed by the twenty-first Meeting, held earlier this year from 13 to 17 June 2011.

[1] See SPLOS/231, paras. 5 and 6.

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III. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

6. The Meeting adopted the agenda (SPLOS/235) and approved the organization of work, as outlined by the President.

IV. Report of the Credentials Committee

7. The Credentials Committee, chaired by Robert Eric Alabado Borje (Philippines), met following the adoption of the agenda. The Chair of the Credentials Committee then introduced the report of the Credentials Committee (SPLOS/236) to the Meeting. In particular, he stated that the Committee had examined and accepted the credentials of the representatives of 142 States Parties to the Convention. The Meeting approved the report of the Committee and adopted the corresponding draft resolution without a vote.

V. Election of one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

8. The President informed the Meeting of the election procedures, recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Meeting of States Parties.

9. The representatives of Indonesia, Malta and Poland acted as tellers.

10. In the one round of balloting, Tetsuro Urabe (Japan) was elected as a member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, with 131 votes in favour and 2 abstentions. He will thus complete the remainder of his predecessor's term of five years, which will end on 15 June 2012.

11. On behalf of States Parties, the President congratulated Mr. Urabe on his election.